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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/873,767	06/04/2001	Walter Ameling	7163-19	2333

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EXAMINER

SHAH, DEVAANG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3737

DATE MAILED: 01/16/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/873,767

Applicant(s)

AMELING ET AL.

Examiner

Devaang Shah

Art Unit

3737

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-7, 9-14, 16, 19-24, 30, 34, 38, 39, 43-47, 50 and 51 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 8, 15, 17, 18, 25-29, 31-33, 35-37, 40-42, 48 and 49 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

1. Claims 7, 13, 19, and 43-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 7 recites the limitations "the catheter tip" in line 2 and "the catheter" in line

5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

Claim 13 recites the limitation "the at least three working catheter reference units" in lines 4 and 5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 19 recites the limitation "the processing units" in line 6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United

Art Unit: 3737

States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

2. Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 9-12, 14, 16, 20-24, 30, 34, 38, 39, 46, 47, 50, and 51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,490,474 B1 to Willis et al. Willis et al. disclose a method and apparatus for mapping a chamber of a heart. The system includes at least one working catheter that has reference units for sending position signals, and at least one reference catheter that is connected to signal-processing circuitry, which receives signals from the working catheter. The signal-processing circuitry calculates the position and orientation of the working catheter. The working catheters can be mapping catheter, linear lesion catheters, and/or marking/ablation catheters. The reference units on the working catheters and the reference catheters consist of at least one ultrasound transducer, which may function as a transmitter, a receiver, or a transmitter/receiver. Processing circuitry may be integrated with the catheters to provide signals that are amplified, filtered, and digitized. The working catheters include controls used to steer its distal end. The working catheters have a mapping basket that has electrodes and ultrasound transducers along the length of each of eight arms. The reference catheters establish an internal coordinate system by which the positions and orientations of the working catheters are determined. The reference catheters are positioned in the right ventricle and the coronary sinus. The reference catheters have several reference units in the distal region, with one reference unit at the tip (please see full disclosure and figures).

Allowable Subject Matter

Art Unit: 3737

3. Claims 4, 8, 15, 17, 18, 25-29, 31-33, 35-37, 40-42, 48, and 49 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

U.S. Patent No. 6,368,285 B1 to Osadchy et al.

U.S. Patent No. 6,230,042 B1 to Slettenmark

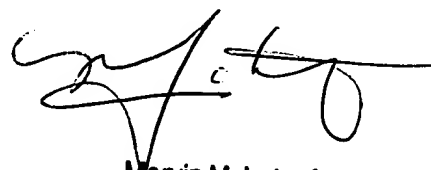
U.S. Patent No. 5,769,843 to Abela

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Devaang Shah whose telephone number is 703-306-0333. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marvin Lateef can be reached on 703 308-3256. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3590 for regular communications and 703-308-0758 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0858.

DS DS
January 11, 2003



Marvin M. Lateef
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3700